



March 20, 2008

Chris Reiner, SFD-9-4
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region IX
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, California 94105

Re: CERCLA General Notice of Potential Liability to Stero Company
Yosemite Creek Superfund Site - San Francisco, California

Dear Mr. Reiner:

The following is the response of Stero Company (Stero) to the General Notice of Potential Liability (GNL) dated February 21, 2008 concerning the Yosemite Creek Superfund Site (Site) in San Francisco, California. Stero is currently a division of Illinois Tool Works Inc. (ITW). The parent company of Stero was acquired by ITW in 1999 and Stero was later divisionalized.

ITW has been in contact with other former members of the Bay Area Drum *Ad Hoc* Potentially Responsible Party Group (PRP Group) regarding the GNL. A message left on the toll-free number established by U.S. EPA for the Site in regard to a PRP Group contact was not returned. However, ITW independently researched former PRP Group counsel and was able to make contact with other members. ITW understands that the former PRP Group will be reactivated to address the GNL. ITW intends to cooperate with other PRP Group members and U.S. EPA in an attempt to resolve the issues described in the GNL.

Please direct all questions and correspondence regarding this Site to Ken Brown at:

Illinois Tool Works Inc.
3600 West Lake Avenue
Glenview, IL 60026

Phone: (847) 657-4843
Fax: (847) 657-7892
E-mail: kbrown@itw.com

Despite its willingness to work with other PRPs at this Site to resolve this matter with U.S. EPA, ITW does not admit any liability nor does it waive any rights in this matter or possible defenses to liability at the Site.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature of Ken Brown in black ink, written over a horizontal line.

Ken Brown, CHMM
Environmental Engineer